

## **GLEN THOMAS EVANS**

### **Military Service**



**Glen Thomas Evans was born January 17, 1917 in Lehi, Utah. His parents were Aaron and Beulah Thomas Evans. Glen grew up knowing what it meant to work hard. His father Aaron had a dry farm and horses and cattle. Glen and his brothers (Dean, Grant, Bruce, Paul and Larry) worked with their father. His sister Thelma helped his mother at home.**

**When the depression hit hard Glen and his brother Bruce went to Idaho Falls to work in the sugar factory in the fall after their farm work was done. Glen was in Idaho Falls when he received his draft notice in 1941. So he went home to spend a month with his family before going into training camp. When He got home he found out that the Lehi National Guard had been called up and Glen joined up with them on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September. His brother Grant was in the same unit so they could be together.**

**The National Guard unit from Lehi was a field artillery battalion, Lehi being the service battery. Glen and Grant worked as mechanics. They were to train for one year, but before the year ended Pearl Harbor was bombed. He ended up serving a little over four and one half years before being released.**

**During the first year he received two seven day furloughs, so he came home for a short visit. Glen was camped at San Luis Obispo, California and convoyed all up and down the coast. Grant was transferred to another outfit.**

**As the news of Japan's sneak attack came to Glen's unit at San Luis Obispo, they were put on alert with no sleep. Sandwiches were served on the job for forty eight hours. The camp was then abandoned and the battalion ended up in Escondido, a little town near San Diego. Here they guarded dams, power plants and patrolled the beach for about one hundred miles.**

One morning in early spring 1942 they were roused from their beds before daylight and told they were moving out. No one knew where they were going. They reached Bakersfield that day with their destination being Fort Lewis, Washington.

Glen's outfit was then sent to San Francisco to go "overseas". Glen was still training with the service battery of the 222 Field Artillery in a small army post outside of Pittsburgh, California while they were finishing loading all the troop ships and the men were getting shots for every known disease. They sailed on the 3rd of September 1942. The 222 Battalion was split to form several batteries and three of the batteries landed on Maui in the Hawaiian Islands. Glen's unit joined three batteries of a New York National Guard and formed the 225 F. A. Battalion a new organization that was never permanently attached to any division. They were assigned wherever they were needed, with army, navy or marines, as a medium artillery to back up the infantry on their offenses.

Hawaii was considered the front line at this time and Glen was stationed on the side of Mt Haleakala as coast artillery. He was sent as motor sergeant to a provisional battery, made up of men sent from all the battalions to man some artillery pieces in the small town of Ulupalakua on the south end of the island. They were to guard the coastline. Glen was there for about eight months.

Glen's unit was moved to Oahu and set up their guns around Honolulu, where they did coast guard for around three months. They then joined a task force and sailed in June 1944 to the Marianas, working with a marine division. They were under Admiral Nimitz. Glen fought on Saipan and Tinian during June and July 1944.

Bombardment of Saipan began on 13 June 1944. The landings beginning on the 15<sup>th</sup> of June. When Saipan was made secure, they crossed to Tinian. The 2nd and 4th Marine Divisions landed on Tinian July 24, 1944, supported by naval bombardment and artillery firing across the strait from Saipan. They secured Tinian and it became home for the next five months.

Glen said that these were the worst islands he was on. "The dead, ours and the Japanese, lay in piles. There was so many that it was almost impossible to breathe because of the stink. " These were long and hard battles, but eventually they were declared secure.

As they rested on Tinian the commands changed and they were taken from Admiral Nimitz and sent to General McArthur's command. Immediately the conditions changed, they had plenty of supplies and General McArthur gave orders to give furloughs.

Anyone who had been "overseas" more than two years was eligible for furlough. There were five furloughs given at first among 500 men and then five a month after that. From the Colonel down lots were drawn to get a place in line to draw for a furlough. Glen

said that there was at least fifty men ahead of him that had drawn and as each one would look at his slip of paper his chin would drop because they came up blank. Glen decided to put some life into this drawing, and knowing he could never be lucky enough to draw a card, he didn't even look at the card but yelled out "furlough"! It almost caused a riot. The Colonel grabbed him, took the card and turned it over and it really said "furlough". Glen had drawn the first furlough in the battalion in over two years. He became so excited, it was unbelievable!

The five who had gotten furloughs flew on a small plane to Saipan where they joined about twenty five others and flew home.

Glen arrived in Salt Lake City and called home and his family came to get him. He was so grateful to see his wife Edna and he met his son Tommy (Glen Thomas Evans) for the first time. Tommy was then twenty months old. Glen arrived home just before Thanksgiving and had to leave to go back just before Christmas. He later said that going AWOL would have been so easy to do, but having such a wonderful little son and wife, he knew he must go back and face the fighting, hoping it would end soon and he could come home for good.

Glen joined his outfit and on December 1<sup>st</sup> they again boarded ship and headed for the Island of Leyte in the Philippines'. They landed there on December 8<sup>th</sup> and went immediately into action. On 20 October, United States troops had invaded the island of Leyte as part of a strategy aimed at isolating Japan from the countries it had occupied in Southeast Asia.

There next action was on the Island of Luzon where the Battalion was split, part of the unit remained on Luzon, while the balance attacked the Island of Mindoro, on the approach to Manila and made it secure. With Leyte secured and the Philippine Islands once more in the hands of the United States Army, they were given a short period of rest.

They rested until the supplies caught up and their barges were loaded. They then sailed in March 1945 in flat bottom landing boats across the China Sea to hit Okinawa, an island in the Ryukyus Island chain.

That was a ride he said he would never forget. Glen's bed was on top of a truck tarp on the deck where he kept his machine gun. As the boat would roll he would look to the right, straight down into the sea, then it would rock the other way. He would turn his head to the left and looked straight down into the sea on that side. Every time a swell would bring the front of the boat up, then drop it, it would creek and groan until it sounded like it would break in two. That trip was about thirty days. They would zig so as to miss the big boats and submarines. They arrived and the beachhead was made on Okinawa on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**“Okinawa was the largest amphibious invasion of the Pacific campaign and the last major campaign of the Pacific War. More ships were used, more troops put ashore, more supplies transported, more bombs dropped, more naval guns fired against shore targets than any other operation in the Pacific. More people died during the Battle of Okinawa than all those killed during the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Casualties totaled more than 38,000 Americans wounded and 12,000 killed or missing, more than 107,000 Japanese and Okinawan conscripts killed, and perhaps 100,000 Okinawan civilians who perished in the battle. Okinawa proved to be the bloodiest battle of the Pacific War...The invasion began on 1 April 1945. ” (GlobalSecurity.org)**

**Glen’s Battalion was under continual fire until June, when Okinawa was made secure.**

**Glen was still on Okinawa when the Japanese surrendered. The war ended in August, 1945 while they were still on Okinawa making ready to invade the Japanese mainland. After much delay, which included waiting out a typhoon, they finally sailed for home.**

**All in all, on boats ranging in size from the largest troop transports to small landing barges Glen spent over three hundred days aboard boats in his three years overseas. He felt very lucky that he was assigned a fifty caliber machine gun so when they boarded a boat he had to set his machine gun upon the top deck. That was much better than trying to breathe down in the bottom of a troop’s hold. Troop ships were loaded and crammed so full that the heat and stink was terrific!**

**When the Japanese ask to surrender, everyone began shooting their guns and machine guns. All the lights around the island went on and sirens sounded. It was a great celebration. Glen jumped into a fox hole and stayed there. He didn’t want to run the risk of getting hit or killed. There were several boys who did get killed in the celebration.**

**The day after the Japanese asked to surrender Glen sailed for home and was discharged with 160 points. Eighty five was the required amount needed. They were sending fresh troops in and he was on the second troop ship to leave. They passed the first ship while it sat at Ulithe taking on water and landed at Seattle, Washington on September 13, 1945. Then they traveled by train to Salt Lake City and on to Fort Douglas to await discharge.**

**It took about two weeks to get his discharge from the army. He received his honorable discharge on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Glen’s service in the Army was five years in duration and included 38 months overseas and 18 months continuous combat duty.**

**Home! What a wonderful place to be reunited with Edna, Tommy and his family and Edna’s family. Glen said, “It was a joy I can’t express. I had some adjustments to make. I**

came home with ulcers so I wasn't feeling the best and my nerves were rather shattered. I just couldn't sit still for very long."

Glen seldom spoke about his war experiences. He came home to the Evans Brothers farm and his family. He suffered with poor health the rest of his life, but he was a wonderful, positive person who influenced his family, neighbors and others with his hard work and commitment to family. He and Edna had eight children: Tommy (Glen Thomas Evans, Jr.), Vicki, Judy, Esther Catherine, Walter Kirk, Pat, Calvin Aaron and Kenneth Bart. He was always proud that he had been able to serve his country.

Glen suffered a major stroke in 1974 and several more in the following years, a heart attack, open heart surgery and eventually cancer. He died on December 24, 1995 after living for 22 years with pain and illnesses. He left behind his wife Edna, seven living children (Tommy having died in 1954 in an accident), nineteen grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. He was buried at the Lehi Cemetery on December 29, 1995 with military honors by the Veterans Association. His great grandchildren were given the spent shells that were fired over his grave.



Lehi Cemetery – December 20, 1995

Flag draped coffin carried by Grandsons.



**Service Battery - 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion 222 F B - February 14, 1941**

**Glen Thomas Evans - Third from left, second row up from front**

**Those who participated in the 222 Field Artillery Battalion were:**

<b>Junior Evans</b>	<b>Lloyd W. Weaver</b>	<b>Robert T. Gilchrist</b>
<b>Robert L. Phillips</b>	<b>Lamont W. Hunter</b>	<b>LaDrue Dorton</b>
<b>James F. Doyle</b>	<b>Don R. George</b>	<b>Elmo J. Wanlass</b>
<b>Allen C. Barnes</b>	<b>Lamar P. Dahl</b>	<b>John R. Goates</b>
<b>Val R. Watkins</b>	<b>George Evans Holmstead</b>	<b>Harold College Hutchings</b>
<b>Chester E. Jacobs</b>	<b>Richard j. Jacobs</b>	<b>Billie Jones</b>

Daniel H. Jones	Melvin T. Jones	Marline Roderick Jones
Nile Douglas Jones	Donald Earl Kirkham	Sydney Lamar Manning
Doran H. Mecham	Eldon N. Otterson	Howe M. Woodhouse
Wayne H. Allred	Harris Bradshaw	Keith W. Calton
George N. Clover	Maurice J. Dahl	Eric Eugene Erickson
John R. Erickson	Glen T. Evans	Donald C. Fatheringham
Franklin Dean Fox	Milo P. Fox	Lane P. Hall
Mason W. Hall	Melvin Alex Hogge	Ambrose LeRoy Holmes
Glen C. Roberts	LeGrand G. Robinson	Glen Shelley
Stanford Shelley	Glen E. Smith	John O'Rourke Smuins
Lloyd Strasburg	Leo J. Street	Alfred Gerald Turner
Ross J. Watkins	Allen Kurt Webb	Fred Dale Whipple
Robert B. White	Marvin M. Wing	Ralph Wm. Winterton
Glen M. Woffinden		

Army of the United States

*This is to certify that*

225TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

is hereby Honorably Discharged from the military  
service of the United States of America.

*This certificate is awarded as a testimonial of Honest and Faithful Service to this country.*

*Date* 19 SEPTEMBER 1945

Entry No. 6135  
 Recorded at the request of John J. Leonard  
SEP 25 1945 #3 P. M.  
 Book #21 Pages 239-40  
 ELOISE P. FILLMORE Recorder  
 Utah County  
 Deputy  
 Compared Stefania West Sec.  
 Indexed R. L. & S. T.  
 Fee 74  
 Mail R. L. & S. T.  
251 West 27th

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# **ENLISTED RECORD AND REPORT OF SEPARATION HONORABLE DISCHARGE**

1. LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL <b>EVANS GLEN T</b>		2. ARMY SERIAL NO. <b>20 925 190</b>	3. GRADE <b>PFC</b>	4. ARM OR SERVICE <b>FA</b>	5. COMPONENT <b>NG</b>
6. ORGANIZATION <b>C BATTERY 225TH F A BN</b>		7. DATE OF SEPARATION <b>19 SEP 45</b>	8. PLACE OF SEPARATION <b>SEP CENTER FORT DOUGLAS UTAH</b>		
9. PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES <b>RFD LEHI UTAH</b>		10. DATE OF BIRTH <b>17 JAN 17</b>	11. PLACE OF BIRTH <b>LEHI UTAH</b>		
12. ADDRESS FROM WHICH EMPLOYMENT WILL BE SOUGHT <b>SEE 9</b>		13. COLOR EYES <b>BROWN</b>	14. COLOR HAIR <b>BROWN</b>	15. HEIGHT <b>5'8"</b>	16. WEIGHT <b>145 LBS</b>
17. NO. DEPEND.	2				
18. RACE <b>WHITE</b>		19. MARITAL STATUS <b>SINGLE</b>		20. U.S. CITIZEN <b>YES</b>	
21. CIVILIAN OCCUPATION AND NO. <b>FARMER</b>		3-06.10			

22. DATE OF INDUCTION <b>NONE</b>						23. DATE OF ENLISTMENT <b>8 JAN 41</b>		24. DATE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE <b>3 MAR 41</b>		25. PLACE OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE <b>LEHI UTAH</b>	
26. SELECTIVE SERVICE DATA <b>NO</b>		27. LOCAL E.S. BOARD NO. <b>UTAH UTAH</b>		28. COUNTY AND STATE <b>UTAH UTAH</b>		29. HOME ADDRESS AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE <b>SEE 9</b>					
30. MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY AND NO. <b>AUTO MECH 014</b>						31. MILITARY QUALIFICATION AND DATE (i.e., Infantry, aviation and marksmanship badges, etc.) <b>NONE</b>					
32. BATTLES AND CAMPAIGNS <b>RYUKYUS GO 40 WD 45 SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES EASTERN MANDATES GO 33 WD 45</b>											
33. DECORATIONS AND CITATIONS <b>ASIATIC PACIFIC SERVICE MEDAL GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL AR 600-68 AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL PHILIPPINE LIBERATION MEDAL WITH ONE BRONZE STAR CIR 136 WD 45</b>											
34. WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION <b>NONE</b>											
35. LATEST IMMUNIZATION DATES SHALLPOX <b>15 APR 44</b> TYPHOID <b>1 MAR 45</b> TETANUS <b>19 APR 44</b> OTHER (specify) <b>CHOLERA 24 FEB 45 *</b>											
36. SERVICE OUTSIDE CONTINENTAL U. S. AND RETURN DATE OF DEPARTURE <b>3 SEP 42</b> DESTINATION <b>HAWAII</b> DATE OF ARRIVAL <b>13 SEP 42</b> <b>UNAVAIL U S 4 NOV 44</b> <b>27 DEC 44 ASIATIC-PAC 5 JAN 45</b> <b>UNAVAIL U S 10 SEP 45</b>						37. HIGHEST GRADE HELD <b>TEC 5</b>					
38. PRIOR SERVICE <b>NONE</b>											
39. REASON AND AUTHORITY FOR SEPARATION <b>CONVENIENCE OF GOVERNMENT RR 1-1 (DEMOBILIZATION) AR 615-365 15 DEC 44</b>											
40. SERVICE SCHOOLS ATTENDED <b>NONE</b>										41. EDUCATION (Years) <b>8 4 0</b>	

42. PAY DATA														
43. LONGEVITY FOR PAY PURPOSES <b>6 10 10</b>			44. MUSTERING OUT PAY <b>300 100</b>			45. SOLDIER DEPOSITS <b>NONE</b>			46. TRAVEL PAY <b>1.60</b>			47. TOTAL AMOUNT, NAME OF DISBURSING OFFICER <b>155.62 ARMSTRONG 02068</b>		

48. IMPORTANT: IF PREMIUM IS NOT PAID WHEN DUE OR WITHIN THIRTY-ONE DAYS THEREAFTER, INSURANCE WILL LAPSE. MAKE CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO THE TREASURER OF THE U. S. AND FORWARD TO COLLECTIONS SUBDIVISION, VETERANS ADMINISTRATION, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.														
49. KIND OF INSURANCE <b>X</b>			50. HOW PAID <b>X</b>			51. Effective Date of Allocated Discontinuance <b>30 SEP 45</b>			52. Date of Next Premium Due (One month after 30) <b>31 OCT 45</b>			53. PREMIUM DUE EACH MONTH <b>6.75</b>		
54. INTENTION OF VETERAN TO <b>Continue</b>														

54. FINGERPRINT 		55. REMARKS (This space for completion of above items or entry of other items specified in W. D. Directives) <b>LAPEL BUTTON ISSUED ASR SCORE (12 MAY 45) 108 PRIOR SERVICE IN UTAH NATIONAL GUARD 2 YEARS 3 MONTHS 21 DAYS * TYPHUS 18 MAY 44 YELLOW FEVER 18 FEB 40</b>									
56. SIGNATURE OF PERSON BEING SEPARATED <i>Glen T. Evans</i>						57. PERSONNEL OFFICER (Type name, grade and organization - signature) <b>J M THOMPSON 1ST LT AC</b> <i>J M Thompson</i>					

WD AGO form 53, 55  
1 November 1944

This form supersedes all previous editions of  
WD AGO Forms 53 and 55 for enlisted persons  
entitled to an Honorable Discharge, which  
will not be used after receipt of this revision.



VETERANS ADMINISTRATION  
REGIONAL OFFICE

1710 South Redwood Road  
Salt Lake City 4, Utah

December 17, 1948

YOUR FILE REFERENCE:

IN REPLY REFER TO: 41R8BA

Mr. Glen T. Evans  
R F D #1  
Lehi, Utah

C- 5 130 624	Monthly
Award of \$ 27.60	
Effective March 4, 1947	

Dear Sir:

An award has been made to you as shown above. These monthly payments will continue subject to the conditions listed on the reverse side of this letter.

This award has been made to you for: Duodenal Ulcer

If there is additional evidence available to you which in your opinion would warrant a different decision, such evidence should be submitted immediately to this office for reconsideration of your claim. If you have no further evidence to submit, but believe that the decision is not in accordance with the law and the facts in your case, you may appeal at any time within one year from the date of this letter. Such an appeal should be addressed to this office.

If you feel that you desire and need vocational rehabilitation to overcome the handicap of your disability, complete the enclosed VA Form 7-1900, Application for Vocational Rehabilitation, and return to this office for consideration of your entitlement.

You are entitled to medical or dental treatment for the conditions referred to above as service connected, should such treatment be necessary. If in need, you are also entitled to hospital treatment for disease or injury, regardless of service origin, or to domiciliary care. This letter will help to establish your entitlement to these benefits and should be presented at time of application.

If you should change your present address, the Veterans Administration must be notified immediately.

Very truly yours,

**IMPORTANT**  
Read the back of this letter for  
information affecting your award.

FL 8-38  
Jan 1947  
Replaces FL's 8-57 and 8-68

*GEO. A. FAUST*  
GEO. A. FAUST  
Adjudication Officer

An inquiry by or concerning an ex-service man or woman should, if possible, give veteran's name and file number, whether C, XC, E, N, or V. If such file number is unknown, service or serial number should be given.